

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE TORRANCE WATER COMMISSION**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance Water Commission convened in a regular session at 7:02 p.m. on Thursday, June 16, 2011 in the West Annex Meeting Room at Torrance City Hall.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

Present: Commissioners Haddon, Lefevre, Lew, McCabe,  
McGee, See, and Chairperson Deemer.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Deputy Public Works Director van der Linden,  
Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich,  
Senior Administrative Analyst Lewis, and  
Metropolitan Water District Director Wright.

**3. FLAG SALUTE**

Metropolitan Water District Director Wright led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Haddon moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. Commissioner McGee seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**5A. MINUTES OF MAY 19, 2011**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Lefevre moved for the approval of the May 19, 2011 Water Commission meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Lew seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM PUBLIC**

None.

**7. OLD BUSINESS**

**7A. REVIEW OF DRAFT URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT (UWMP) REPORT**

Senior Administrative Analyst Lewis provided a power point presentation on the basic requirements of the Urban Water Management Planning Act, the City's approach to preparing its 2010 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), and the conclusions that were drawn from its findings. She stated that the final draft is included in agenda materials, noting that it will be submitted to City Council at its June 21, 2011 meeting/

Public Hearing for acceptance and approval and submitted to the Department of Water Resources and State Library by August 1, 2011. She presented background on the UWMP Act of 2005, amendment of the Water Conservation Act of 2009 (SBX7-7), and Governor Schwarzenegger's 2020 Plan. She explained that the purpose of the Plan is for urban suppliers to support its long-term resource planning and ensure that adequate water supplies are available to meet existing and future water demands in normal, dry, or multiple dry years.

She briefly reviewed the contents of the eight sections of the City's UWMP: Introduction, Water Sources and Supplies, Water Quality, Water Demand, Reliability Planning, Conservation Measures, Contingency Planning, and Water Recycling. She presented major conclusions and findings from each section: Water Sources and Supplies – MWD imported water, local groundwater including desalination water and recycled water; Water Quality – Due to mitigation actions undertaken by MWD and TMW, staff does not anticipate any reductions in its water supplies due to water quality issues; Water Demand and Reliability Planning – TMW can meet water demands for all years through 2035. Development of local groundwater resources will increase reliability and reduce dependence on imported water supplies; Conservation Measures – TMW will meet its set target of 133 Gallons per Capita per Day (GPCD) through 2035 based on current demand and continued use of Best Management Practices; and Contingency Planning – City Response Plan, MWD's Water Supply Demand Management Plan, Emergency Response Plan, City's Water Waste Ordinance. She reviewed the UWMP preparation schedule and concluded her presentation by noting the final conclusion that no water shortages are forecasted in TMW area through 2035.

Responding to Commissioner Haddon's inquiry about how future estimates were forecast, Senior Administrative Analyst Lewis explained that they considered the target baseline required by SBX7-7 as well as historical data from MWD.

Commissioner Lew inquired about other cities and Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich responded that some agencies will be able to meet their SBX7-7 goals but that others may show deficit conditions in 2035 based on their water supply mix.

Senior Administrative Analyst Lewis pointed out that the UWMP serves not only as a planning document and encourages conservation, but is also a legal requirement to be eligible for any State funding or grants.

In response to Chairperson Deemer's inquiry about future growth of urban communities, Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich explained that agencies will be required to complete an UWMP and comply with the 2020 Plan as soon as they either provide over 3,000 acre-feet of water annually or serve more than 3,000 or more connections. He added that the 2020 Plan is based on per capita usage per day not on total water usage.

Responding to Commissioner Lefevre's inquiry, Senior Administrative Analyst Lewis stated that DWR will thoroughly review the City's 2010 UWMP and revisions may be required.

MWD Director Wright added that MWD gives a \$250 rebate per acre-foot of water conserved.

Referring to Section 6-8, Commissioner McCabe inquired about the City's Green Team recommendation to convert public areas to water efficient landscape.

Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich responded that the City looks for available grant opportunities, programs, and rebates, but that landscaping retrofits are very expensive programs. He added that a water usage efficiency study is currently being prepared and will determine the cost effectiveness of various water conservation programs. He noted that Commissioners would be reviewing the study in approximately three months and assist staff in determining the best return for investment.

Commissioner Lefevre, referring to Section 2-14, inquired why the City is applying for Proposition 50 funding for the Goldsworthy Desalter facility and Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich explained that the Water Replenishment District (WRD) is actually submitting the application with the City's concurrence and participation.

Responding to Commissioner Lefevre's inquiry about wording in Section 3-4, Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich advised that water containing high levels of Total Organic Carbon and Bromide are treated with chloramines and ozone.

Commissioner McCabe suggested replacing the word "once" with "after" in Section 3-4 to provide clarification.

Commissioner Lefevre questioned the amount of total annual water consumption in Table 4.1 on page 4-2, and staff advised that verbiage should be changed to total potable water.

Referring to Commissioner Lefevre's inquiry regarding potential recycled water users in Table 8.3 Section 8-5, Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich explained that West High School is outside TMW's service area.

MWD Director Wright stated that water that comes from the Bay Delta has a high amount of plant material and that MWD is converting its treatment plants to ozone to prevent the production of Disinfection byproducts (DBPs). He added that Colorado River water has little plant material but is very salty and needs to be treated differently than water from Northern California.

In response to Commissioner Lefevre's inquiry, Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich explained that a gray water system would have to be permitted and regulated by Los Angeles County Health Department.

Responding to Commissioner Lew's inquiry about meeting residents' water needs in the event of a massive earthquake, Deputy Public Works Director van der Linden advised that distribution centers have been identified in the City based on sections and that plans are in place for contractors to distribute water.

Chairperson Deemer questioned if population projections in Table 1.3 are too low and received clarification from staff that population figures were based on the 2010 census and were prorated by the 78% service area. It was noted that population is expected to expand modestly with an annual growth rate of less than 1% annually over the next 25 years.

At Chairperson Deemer's request, Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich explained that the 2020 Plan target is calculated on a regional method for the South Coast area and that the City can expect exemptions because of processed industrial water and recycled water use. He noted that, because of these exemptions, the City has already met its 2020 Plan goals.

Referring to Chairperson Deemer's inquiry about Constituents of Concern in Section 3-7, staff stated some concern that the Environmental Protection Agency may set higher standards for Chromium 6 as well as about the formation of DBPs when constituents are treated with chlorine compounds.

Chairperson Deemer received clarification from staff that a customer is a meter and that the California Urban Water Conservation Council has assisted in providing information and developing Best Management Practices.

MWD Director Wright explained how MWD's regional imported water supply reliability projections are made, adding that projected growth in the Inland Empire has been less than expected.

Responding to an inquiry by Commissioner Lefevre regarding seawater intrusion, Senior Administrative Analyst Schaich discussed the three injection barriers referred to in Sections 2-5 and 2-6.

In response to Commissioner Lew's inquiry about the Walteria Reservoir, Deputy Public Works Director van der Linden stated that circulation improvements have been made and another project has been outlined to accomplish further improvement. He added that, in the event of a catastrophe, 80% of the City could be supplied through gravity.

Deputy Public Works Director van der Linden reminded Commissioners that the Commission conceptually approved the 2010 UWMP at its May 2011 Commission meeting, that Commissioners' comments would be incorporated in the Plan, and that no further action was needed.

## **8. METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

With the aid of slides, MWD Director Wright reported on MWD's Combined Reservoir Storage as of June 1, 2011. He was pleased to note that Diamond Valley Lake is operationally full due to water brought down through the Inland Feeder from Northern California. He reported that Lake Oroville is full and that Mammoth still has a 50-inch snowpack that supplies the Los Angeles aqueduct. He stated that the snowpack on the upper Colorado River is 374% of normal, the highest recorded in history.

In response to Commissioner Haddon's inquiry, he stated that there might be flooding in the Grand Junction area depending on weather conditions.

Responding to Commissioner McGee's inquiry, MWD Director Wright discussed storage agreements, the San Diego County Water Authority, rebate programs, and MWD's rate structure that emphasizes transportation over supply.

## **9. WEST BASIN WATER ASSOCIATION REPORT**

Deputy Public Works Director van der Linden reported that at the June 7, 2011 Association meeting the Water Master reported that West Coast Basin pumped 3,700 acre-feet in April 2011. He stated that West Basin Municipal Water District reported that it awarded a \$62 million contract to expand the Edward C. Little reclamation facility, with completion expected in July 2012. West Basin Municipal Water District also reported that they are also working on a Desalination Master Plan and provided a water supply update.

He reported that WRD approved their budget that includes a 19% increase in the replenishment assessment and a new line item to cover litigation issues. He stated that WRD received approval of a federal grant for a study for the expansion of the Goldsworthy Desalination facility and announced a Groundwater Quality Workshop on June 29, 2011.

#### **10. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Deputy Public Works Director van der Linden noted that the Monthly Department Report for May 2011 was included in agenda packets. He reported an increase in overall and potable water production in May 2011 and noted that there were only three water main breaks. He stated that the Goldsworthy Desalter went back on line on June 16, 2011.

In response to Commissioner McGee's inquiry, he explained when water quality investigations are conducted.

Responding to Chairperson Deemer's inquiry, he advised that it will take another five to six years until the automated meter reading system is completed.

**MOTION:** Commissioner See moved to accept and file the Monthly Department Report for May 2011. Commissioner Haddon seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

#### **11. ORALS**

Commissioner McGee requested and was granted an excused absence for the July 21, 2011 Commission meeting.

#### **12. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** At 8:50 p.m., Commissioner Haddon moved to adjourn the meeting to July 21, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission meeting room. Chairperson Deemer seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Deemer so ordered.

Approved as Submitted July 21, 2011 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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